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SIPDIS

DEPT FOR NEA/ARPI, NEA/PPD, NEA/P, INR/R/MR

LONDON FOR GOLDRICH

PARIS FOR ZEYA

USCENTCOM FOR PLUSH

FOREIGN PRESS CENTER FOR ASILAS

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KPAQ](#) [KMDR](#) [OPIP](#) [PTER](#) [PREL](#) [MU](#)

SUBJECT: SPECIAL MEDIA REACTION: TERRORIST ATTACKS IN LONDON

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The Roots of Terrorism  
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[¶1.](#) The government-owned Arabic-language daily "Oman" published an editorial on July 11 entitled "The Search For Solutions To Violence":

"Wars do not solve the phenomena of terrorism and violence. The solution requires a serious effort to understand terrorism's roots and causes. British PM Tony Blair previously spoke of the necessity of studying the roots of terrorism, claiming that strict security procedures alone would not prevent terrorist attacks. The London bombings, tragically, underscored his point. Terrorism is an international problem that has neither a nationality nor a religion. This means that connecting terrorism with a certain religion is a fatal mistake which can only lead to hatred between countries."

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The Insanity of Terrorism  
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[¶2.](#) Abdullah al-Alyan penned an opinion piece in "Oman" on July 11, entitled "The Insanity Of Targeting The Innocents":

"The terrorist bombs that exploded in London revealed the insanity of terrorism, in which everybody is a target. The goal of this attack was to scare the innocents: men, women, and children, regardless of whether or not they had any role in the policies of their countries. Such random killings are condemned by all religions and civilizations. If it is discovered that a certain Islamic group is behind these attacks, it must be remembered that such crimes are not condoned by any Islamic teachings or morals. Rather than accomplishing its objective, this heinous act will only increase the difficulties for Muslims residing in Britain and other Western nations, taking us back to the sorrowful time after the 9/11 incidents."

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The Double Standard of Terrorism  
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[¶3.](#) Also in "Oman" on July 11, Dr. Obaid al-Shaqsi, a professor at Sultan Qaboos University, wrote an op-ed under the headline "The Fruits Of The War On Terror":

"A recent editorial in a leading British newspaper acknowledged the double standard that exists when American or British casualties are compared to Third World casualties, particularly in Arab and Muslim countries. Leaders and decision makers in Britain and the U.S. describe foreign deaths as 'collateral damage,' while their own losses are termed 'inhuman,' 'horrible,' and - as Tony Blair put it - 'barbaric.' But is the suffering of an American or a British citizen any different from the suffering of an Iraqi or an Afghan? Violence is violence, whether it comes in the form of a destructive war or in the form of terrorist attacks against innocent civilians. Both activities are designed to deprive human beings of the right to live."

BALTIMORE